APPLICANT ARGUMENTS OR REMARKS MADE IN AN AMENDMENT

Claims Pending

Claims 1-7 and 11-17 have been allowed.

It is requested that claims 6, 15 and 16 be amended under Rule 312 to fix obvious errors.

In claim 6 the dependency from claim 4 is wrong. The attachment point for the W group is at a different position than that defined in claim 4 (position 5 versus position 6) making this specific W group defined in claim 6 not found in claim 4. Claim 6 should instead depend from claim 3. Accordingly, claim 6 has been amended so that it now depends from claim 3.

In claims 15 and 16 the nature of the protecting groups has been reversed. Claim 15 has been amended to read "carboxy protecting group" and claim 16 should read "nitrogen protecting group".

Respectfully submitted,
/Alan Stempel/
Alan Stempel, Reg. No. 28991

Patent Department
Boehringer Ingelheim Corp.
900 Ridgebury Road
P.O. Box 368
Ridgefield, CT. 06877

Tel.: (203) 798-4868